

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona (INTERQUAL 2019)

Autologous Chondrocyte Implantation—Pre-authorization Checklist

The following checklist reflects the minimum requirements that the plan will need at the time of pre-authorization. Failure to include all of this information in the pre-authorization request or failure to make sure that all 'no' answers are fully addressed in the pre-authorization request will significantly increase the likelihood that the pre-authorization request will be denied or significantly delayed.

Full thickness (grade III or IV) unipolar cartilage defect of the knee (patella, femoral condyle, or trochlea) caused by acute or repetitive trauma	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Symptoms are disabling	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Patient is adolescent and skeletally mature with documented closure of growth plates, or adult too young for total knee arthroplasty (age < 55)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Documented minimal to absent degenerative changes in the surrounding articular cartilage (Outerbridge grade 2 or less)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Normal appearing hyaline cartilage surrounding the border of the defect	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Normal knee biomechanics, or alignment and stability can be achieved with implantation	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

All 'no' answers must be fully addressed at time of pre-authorization.

The reimbursement material contained in this guide represents our current (as of April 22, 2020) understanding of the pre-authorization checklists reflected in various payer policies. Many of the topics covered in this guide are complex and all are subject to change beyond our control. Healthcare professionals are responsible for keeping current and complying with reimbursement-related rules and regulations. This information is not intended to be directive, nor does the use of the recommended criteria guarantee reimbursement. Providers are responsible for the accuracy of any claims, invoices and related documentation submitted to payers.